time he will occupy that exalted office, he will do everything that he can to help forward the progress of not only this Presidency but also of the whole country."

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" Sir, it gives me the greatest pleasure to second this resolution. In offering our respectful felicitations to His Excellency Sir George Stanley on his appointment as acting Viceroy, I have great pleasure in associating the Government of Madras with this resolution and it is but right that this Legislative Council, in the practical working of which His Excellency has been taking such a deep interest, should pass such a resolution."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I beg to associate myself heartily with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers on this motion. As one who has moved intimately with His Excellency, I may say that the position which has been conferred upon him is a well-deserved one. I may also say that in whatever he has done for the people of this Province, he has always been actuated by the best of motives. I have no doubt that during his term of acting Viceroyalty he will do everything that lies in his power to advance India as a whole towards Constitutional Reforms."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" In the absence of the hon. the Chief Minister, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I may say that His Excellency's appointment as Acting Viceroy has been well received by the public and I am sure that during his short term of office he will do a great deal towards the advancement of this country and Madras in particular. With these few words I once more associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

IV.—RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATION TO THE HON. SIR MAHOMED USMAN ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS ACTING GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name thus—

'*this Council congratulates the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as Acting Governor of Madras.*'

" I think, Mr. President, few words are needed from me to commend this resolution to the House. The House has been associated with Sir Mahomed for the last three and a half years as its Leader and before that as a Member of the Executive Council. Whatever might have been the difference of opinion between us and the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman, everybody will admit that he has always been noted for his courtesy and consideration. I am sure no one on any occasion has gone out of this House with a feeling of resentment against him and I may say that Sir Mahomed Usman has done all that he can to make the hon. Members of the House feel that he does everything in the light of his conscience. I am sure the whole Presidency

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is delighted to see that the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 has been given effect to by the appointment of Sir Mahomed to act as Governor. This is the first time in history, that an Indian has been appointed to the very high office of Governor in a Presidency and I am sure every one is pleased about it. This does not mean that we are considering this question as a racial one. Far from it, Sir Mahomed Usman is the senior Member of the Executive Council and it was only right that he was appointed as Acting Governor of Madras. I hereby tender my congratulations to him on behalf of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, Muhammadan community in particular, and Indians as a whole, feel very much delighted for the honour that he been conferred on Sir Mahomed Usman by his being appointed as Governor of Madras. As I wrote to him, it really gladdens the heart of every one to think that at this critical period the Government thought fit to appoint the seniormost Member of the Executive Council as Acting Governor, thus giving effect to the principle that, whatever may be the race or caste to which a Member belongs, if he is the seniormost man, he may automatically step into the shoes of the Governor, when that office becomes vacant. From that standpoint, more than anything else, I congratulate him and may I hope that, during his term of office, however short it may be, he will associate himself with such movements as will advance the interests of this Province and bring credit to himself."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers. Sir Mahomed Usman has given extreme satisfaction to the Hindus as well as the Muhammadans, and he is very well known to the Members of this House. The long experience gained by him in his capacity as Home Member and also as Leader of the House will, I am sure, stand him in good stead when he acts as Governor of Madras. I have great pleasure in offering my hearty congratulations to him."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" I rise to support the motion that has been moved on the floor of this House. Having had close intimacy with him, as one who has had the opportunity of having in his charge the Labour Portfolio, I may say with confidence that the depressed classes are really thankful to His Majesty's Government for appointing Sir Mahomed Usman as Acting Governor of Madras.

" Apart from the communal question, he is the first Indian to be appointed to this exalted office and, I am sure, Sir, that as the Head of the Administration, as Acting Governor, he will see that questions connected with the depressed classes receive sympathetic consideration." 11-15 a.m.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. President, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by previous speakers on the motion before the House. I need hardly say, Sir, that this appointment made by His Majesty's Government has given equal satisfaction to all the communities in this Province. It is not on account of the fact that Sir Mahomed Usman belongs to the Muslim

community that Mussalmans are pleased, but they are happy to find that the Government have had a broad outlook on this question and have acted in a very statesmanlike manner in appointing an Indian to this post. This shows that the Government are really inclined to make great changes in the constitution of this country. If this is an indication of what the people of Madras are going to get in regard to the future constitution of the country, I am sure that something good is in store for us. On this foundation which has been so well and truly laid, I am sure that the Government would build a structure which will be satisfactory to all the people of this province."

* Mr. F. BIRLEY:—" Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the European Members of this Council, I have great pleasure in associating myself with everything that has been said in this House in felicitating the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as Acting Governor of Madras."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Mr. President, I think every community hails with satisfaction the appointment of Sir Mahomed Usman as Acting Governor of this Presidency. It is not only a personal compliment to him, it is a compliment to the whole of this Province. We all feel that this appointment is a compliment paid to the people of this Province. It shows that the British Government have acted in a most statesmanlike way. There was a fear expressed in certain quarters that the appointment might not go to an Indian. But this fear has now been dispelled and we must congratulate the authorities on having appointed Sir Mahomed Usman in spite of any difficulties there might have been to that course.

" As regards the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman himself, he has been doing work, which has been beset with great difficulties, with great tact and ability. He richly deserves this appointment and I am sure that, during his tenure of office, he will hold the scales evenly between all the communities and do his best to advance the interests of all communities in this country."

* Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—" Mr. President, it gives me peculiar pleasure, on behalf of the Anglo-Indian community which I represent, to congratulate the hon. Sir Mahomed Usman on his appointment as acting Governor. It is with thankfulness for what we have received at his hands and with a knowledge, born of experience, that we will get fair treatment at his hands when Governor of this Presidency, that I rise to tender the community's hearty congratulations to him in supporting the resolution that has been so appropriately moved."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—" Mr. President, may I with your permission, Sir, tender my very humble and grateful thanks to the hon. Members of this House who spoke so kindly about me and to all the hon. Members of this august Body for having passed this resolution."